

Application No. 10/669,422
Docket No. PE0673USNA

Remarks

The following remarks are responsive to the Examiner's rejection in the Office Action dated April 9, 2007.

Status of the Claims

Claims 20 and 40 are pending. Claim 40 is added herein. Claims 1-19 and 21-39 were previously canceled.

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 40 is added to recite that the conductive polymer is an acid/base salt. Support for this can be found at page 5, lines 18-28. No new matter is introduced.

Claim Rejection -- 35 U.S.C. § 102 / § 103

Claims 20 stands as rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Elschner et al., U.S. Patent 5,917,279 ("Elschner"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Elschner discloses an electroluminescent arrangement having an intermediate layer. The intermediate layer is made of finely divided inorganic particles (nanoparticles) dispersed in a polymer binder. The intermediate layer can be located between the anode and the electroluminescent layer, between the cathode and the electroluminescent layer, or both. The polymer binders are discussed at column 2, lines 35-41.

The Examiner has stated that the electrically conductive polymer of Applicant's Claim 20, is not distinguishable over the polymer binders of Elschner. Applicant respectfully submits that the term "electrically conductive polymer" is a term of art that is well understood and is distinctly different from the insulative polymers listed by Elschner. Submitted herewith is one of many possible technical articles directed to electrically conductive polymers. One of ordinary skill in the art would recognize that the polymers of Elschner are not the same as or fairly suggestive of electrically conductive polymers.

With respect to newly added Claim 40, Applicant submits that there is no teaching or suggestion in Elschner of inorganic particles dispersed in a polymer which is an acid/base salt.

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Applicant respectfully submits that this rejection has been overcome and requests that it be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and earnestly solicits a notice of allowance for Claims 20 and 40.

Should the Examiner have questions about the status of the application or the contents of this paper, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: June 3, 2008